

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 TRSE-00

DOT-00 /036 R

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RA/MEX:GFALK

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R 162048Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: IUOTO, PORG, OCON

SUBJECT: IUOTO REGIONAL MEETING

1. REGIONAL TRAVEL COMMISSION FOR THE AMERICAS (RTCA) WILL MEET IN MEXICO APRIL 22-26. REGIONAL COMMISSION IS SUB BODY OF INTERNATIONAL UNION OF OFFICIAL TRAVEL ORGANIZATIONS (IUOTO), WHICH HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO NEW INTER-GOVERNMENTAL WORLD TOURISM ORGANIZATION (WTO) WITH COMING INTO FORCE OF WTO STATUTES NOVEMBER 1, 1974. STATUS OF RTCA WITH RESPECT TO WTO PRESENTLY UNCLEAR, AND PRESUMABLY WILL BE AMONG QUESTIONS TO BE CLARIFIED WHEN WTO HOLDS ITS FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MADRID MAY 12-23.

2. US MEMBER OF RTCA, US TRAVEL SERVICE (USTS), WILL BE REPRESENTED BY DAVID EDGELL, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO ASSISTANT
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SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR TOURISM, WHO WILL CONTACT USTS

COUNTRY DIRECTOR FOR MEXICO, WILLIAM TAPPE, REGARDING
ARRANGEMENTS FOR US PARTICIPATION.

3. AGENDA FOR MEETING INCLUDES ITEM ON EXAMINATION OF
DOCUMENTS PREPARED FOR FIRST WTO ASSEMBLY, AND DEPARTMENT
ANTICIPATES EFFORT MAY BE MADE ON PART OF SOME PARTICIPANTS
TO COORDINATE COMMON POSITIONS FOR ASSEMBLY. EDGELL KNOW-
LEDGABLE OF BASIC US POSITIONS AND STATE OF PREPARATION

ON DETAILED AGENDA BUSINESS FOR WTO ASSEMBLY. HOWEVER,
AS US POSITIONS FOR WTO ASSEMBLY NOT YET FULLY WORKED
OUT, AND AS LARGE NUMBER OF RTCA MEMBERS NOT EXPECTED
TO BE REPRESENTED AT MEXICO MEETING, DEPARTMENT DOES
NOT BELIEVE IT WISE TO ATTEMPT TO COORDINATE WTO
ASSEMBLY POSITIONS AT MEETING AND WOULD NOT WISH TO
HAVE IMPRESSION LEFT THAT THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.
ON QUESTION OF SITE OF PERMANENT WTO HEADQUARTERS, HOW-
EVER, WE WOULD NOT WISH TO IMPEDE MEXICAN EFFORTS TO
ROUND UP LATIN AMERICAN SUPPORT. US POSITION (COMMITMENT
TO ZAGREB) WELL KNOWN TO MEXICO AND OTHERS, HAS BEEN
RECOGNIZED IN EARLIER MEETINGS, AND SHOULD NOT PRESENT
CONTENTIOUS PROBLEM FOR US REPRESENTATIVES.

4. GIVEN HIGH DEGREE OF INTEREST MEXICO HAS TAKEN IN
FORMATION OF WTO, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO MAINTAIN CLOSE
CONTACT WITH USTS REPRESENTATIVES TO RTCA MEETING. RE-
QUEST EMBASSY REPORT (INFO GENEVA) ANY SIGNIFICANT OUT-
COME OF MEETING WITH RESPECT TO WTO. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOURISM, MEETING AGENDA, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE087336
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CJGRIP:BAS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750134-0654
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750445/aaaabply.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUN 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IUOTO REGIONAL MEETING
TAGS: PORG, OCON, IUOTO
To: MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006